

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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BOARD ACCEPTS COMMISSIONER'S RESIGNATION, NAMES INTERIM

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – During a special-called meeting today, the Kentucky Board of Education agreed to accept the resignation of Kentucky Education Commissioner Jon E. Draud.

In December, Draud announced that he would resign his position effective in early February due to health reasons. The board scheduled a special meeting today to formally accept his resignation and discuss next steps. Draud asked that his resignation date be modified to January 31, and the board accepted that change.

The board also discussed the process to fill the commissioner of education, agreeing to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a firm to conduct a national search. The board agreed to include all members on a screening committee to review applications for the commissioner's position.

The board approved a motion naming Deputy Commissioner Elaine Farris as interim commissioner. She will serve in that capacity until the position is filled permanently and will not be a candidate for the position.

The board also agreed to approve the two percent budget reduction proposal prepared by Kentucky Department of Education staff in response to Gov. Steve Beshear's request. The proposal includes postponing the textbook adoption cycle and making administrative cuts at the agency.

The board's next regular meeting will be February 10 and 11 in Frankfort.

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